



CITY OF FREEPORT

125 Main Street E – PO Box 301 – Freeport, MN 56331 – 320-836-2112 – FAX 320-836-2116
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March 31, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00pm by Mayor Rodney Atkinson with Councilmembers Mike Eveslage, Ken Goebel, Tim Hennen and Ben Eittle Present.

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Mason Schirmer, Administrative Assistant Adrianna Hennen, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, City Engineer Dave Blommel, Stearns Co. Assessor Jeff Johnson, Stearns Co. Assessor Kathy Korte.

Residents in attendance:

Andrea Ramacher & Vernon Fuchs (720 1 st Ave N)	Sister Janine Braun (Sacred Heart Principal)
Gary & Linda Pierskalla (324 8 th St SE)	Al Williams (.308 2 nd Ave NW)
Gerald Meyer (330 8 th St SE)	Steve Notch (Freeport)
Stephanie Hennen (303 3 rd St SE)	John & Matthew Beste (Freeport)
Maretta Van Beck (Freeport)	Kathy Welle (Freeport)
Sara & Noah Van Beck (Freeport)	Gail Ostendorf (124 2 nd St NE)
Laura Goebel (Freeport)	Rose Austing (716 1 th Ave N)
Gary Goebel (Freeport)	Sherry Eveslage (106 7 th St SE)
Glen Wilwerding (Freeport)	Melissa & Ben Atkinson (Melrose)
Tom Blommel (107 4 th St NW)	Wendy Atkinson (310 8 th St SE)
Tom Ryan (1009 3 rd Ave SE)	Carrie Goebel (207 3 rd Ave SE)
Jake Renneker & Tabatha Forness (107 9 th St SE)	

Approve Agenda

Motion made by Goebel to incorporating the Mayor's Proclamation Recognition of Service to the next item on the agenda; exchanged in 'New Business' letters 'd' and 'l'; claims extended to 1844.; add section 'm' under 'New Business' 'Dollar amount we spend on public nuisances ordinances.' Seconded by T. Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Maretta Van Beck, League of MN Cities "Mayor for a Day" Essay Contest Honorable Mention

Maretta Van Beck was recognized by city council for receiving honorable mention for the League of MN Cities "Mayor for a Day" essay contest.

Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service

Agnes Job and Laura Hoeschen recognized for serving a combined total of 933.21 hours between Sept 2014 and Jan 2015 in the Foster Grandparent Program.

2015 Property Assessment Update by Stearns County Assessor

2015 Property Assessment update by Stearns County Assessor Jeff Johnson and Kathy Korte. Korte provided Sales packets that will be used for the LBAE meeting. Johnson spoke briefly on commercial, agricultural and industrial properties.

Public Hearing for Ordinance 2015-001 Regarding City Council Salaries

Discussion by council.

Public Hearing for Appeal of Denied Variance Request for 1009 3rd Ave SE by Owner Tom Ryan

Schirmer provided a recap on Ryan's request.

Public Forum

Gary Pierskalla, requested street lighting to be added on 7th St. of the Industrial Park for security purposes. Council members agreed Schirmer should look into it.

Mayor Atkinson mentioned having speed monitoring signs on the east side of town. Council members agreed to have Schirmer look into speed monitoring signs.

Consent Agenda

Ettle motioned to move 'd. February 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes' to 'n' under 'New Business' and to move 'a. Clerk-Treasurer Report' to 'o' under 'New Business'. Seconded by T. Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

January 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

T. Hennen moved to have whoever takes the minutes now will write action minutes, effective now.

Eveslage seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Ettle presented Schirmer with an example of action minutes. Eveslage moved to resubmit January 27, 2015 meeting minutes and February 24, 2015 meeting minutes as action minutes and separate the AFSA meeting minutes into a separate document, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 5-0.

Main Street Lights

Advised to get proposals from Dan Roering (Freeport Electric) on options and pricing.

Alee Photography Revised Estimates

T. Hennen moved to have Weber take pictures for the website and do the wall mounted pictures in-house.

Ettle seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

EDA Bylaws

Eveslage moved to rescind the EDA bylaw changes. T. Hennen seconded the motion. Advisement from City Attorney Scott Dymoke. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2014-007

Goebel moved and Eveslage seconded to rescind Resolution 2014-007. Discussion followed. Motion carried 4-0 (Atkinson abstained).

Appeal of Denied Variance Request for 1009 3rd Ave SE by Owner Tom Ryan

Eveslage moved and Ettle seconded a motion to approve the Variance request for 1009 3rd Ave SE by owner Tom Ryan. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Resolution 2015-07 Re: Salaries of elected officials

Goebel moved and Eveslage seconded to approve Resolution 2015-07. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2015-08 Re: Closing fund 409

Goebel moved and T. Hennen seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2015-08. Motion carried 5-0

Resolution 2015-09 Re: Early voting

T. Hennen moved, seconded by Eveslage to table Resolution 2015-09 until more information was gathered. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

1-Ton Truck Box

T. Hennen moved, seconded by Eveslage to have Bayer repair the truck box. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

Maintenance Shop

Goebel moved and Rodney seconded a motion to approve authorizing Dave Blommel (SEH, Inc. engineer) to conduct a feasibility study. Discussed that it was important for council to know the cost of rebuilding a maintenance shop in case the opportunity to sell the maintenance building arose. Motion carried 5-0.

Middendorf Property

Eveslage moved and Ertle seconded to table topic until more information was gathered. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

Al Williams Re: Ice skating rink

Atkinson advised Williams to get estimates on possible ice skating rink locations in town.

Dan Austing (as requested by Mayor)

This line item was not addressed at the meeting, being Dan Austing was not in attendance.

Mayor Atkinson called a 10 minute recess at 9:30. Called meeting back to order at 9:40.

Clara Michaels Opinion Letter Re: Fire Service

Eveslage moved and seconded by Ertle to table the topic until more information can be gathered, and to call Michaels and inform her that the letter has been received. Motion carried 5-0.

Pick-up Truck Offer

T. Hennen moved and Eveslage seconded a motion to table discussion to next month. Motion carried 5-0. Ertle asked for Jon Stueve to be at the next meeting.

Winterizing Softball Park

T. Hennen moved and seconded by Eveslage to pay Atkinson Well and Pumps invoice. Discussion followed. Motion carried 4-0 (Atkinson abstaining).

Dollars Spent on Nuisance Ordinance Enforcement

T. Hennen questioned the amount of money being spent to resolve public nuisances in town.

February 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Schirmer was directed to redraft February minutes in “action” minute format.

Clerk/Treasurer Report

The Clerk/Treasurer Report not approved.

Clerk-Treasurer Performance Evaluation

Motion to include Atkinson’s evaluation was made by Ertle and seconded by Eveslage. Discussion followed. Motion carried 4-0 (Atkinson abstaining).

Council members were given the opportunity to speak about their own decision on the Clerk-Treasurer’s performance.

Atkinson called a recess at 11:13pm. Atkinson called the meeting back to order at 11:20pm

Schirmer was given the opportunity to discuss his performance over the past year.

T. Hennen moved and Atkinson seconded a motion to have the performance evaluation calculated to two decimal points. Discussion followed. Motion carried 5-0.

T. Hennen moved and Eveslage seconded a motion to give the Clerk-Treasurer a ‘less than satisfactory’ performance evaluation Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

T. Hennen moved and Ertle seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:26pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor, Rodney Atkinson

Acting City Clerk, Adrianna Hennen